

Sentence Review Division
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SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF MONTANA

STATE OF MONTANA,)	Cause No. DC-14-242
)	
Plaintiff,)	Silver Bow County District Court
)	Montana Second Judicial District
)	
-vs-)	DECISION
)	
CHAD JACOB JOHNSTON,)	
Defendant.)	

On May 31, 2019, the Defendant's suspended sentence was revoked and he was sentenced to the Montana State Prison for five (5) years, for the offense of Escape, a Felony, in violation of §45-7-306, MCA. The Court ordered credit for time served in the amount of 526 days.

On November 8, 2019, the Defendant's Application for review of that sentence was heard by the Sentence Review Division of the Montana Supreme Court (hereafter "the Division"). The Defendant was present and was represented by John Ferguson, Defense Counsel. The State was not represented.

Before hearing the Application, the Defendant was advised that the Division has the authority not only to reduce the sentence or affirm it, but also increase it. The Defendant was further advised that there is no appeal from a decision of the Division. The Defendant acknowledged that he understood this and stated that he wished to proceed.

Rule 12, Rules of the Sentence Review Division of the Supreme Court of Montana, provides that, "The sentence imposed by the District Court is presumed correct. The sentence shall not be reduced or increased unless it is clearly inadequate or clearly excessive." (Section 46-18-904(3), MCA).

The Division finds that the reasons advanced for modification are insufficient to hold that the sentence imposed by the District Court is clearly inadequate or clearly excessive.

Therefore, it is the unanimous decision of the Division that the sentence is **AFFIRMED**.

Done in open Court this 8th day of November, 2019.

DATED this 11th day of December, 2019.

SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION



Hon. Brenda Gilbert, Chairperson



Hon. Dan Wilson, Member



Hon. Luke Berger, Member

Copies mailed this 13th day
of December, 2019, to:

Clerk of District Court (Original)
Chad Jacob Johnston #2076800, Defendant (2)
Hon. Kurt Krueger
John Ferguson, Defense Counsel
Michael W. Clague, Esq.
Board of Pardons and Parole
MSP - Records Dept.



Georgia Lovelady, Judicial Assistant
Sentence Review Division